Statement

Detail of action to curb crimes against women and proposals for their empowerment

Law and order and other criminal matters is a State subject under the Constitution and therefore the direct responsibility for dealing with enforcement of the concerned Acts is that of the State Governments and the mechanisms under them. The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes against women is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/UT Administrations. However, the Government of India has initited a number of measures to check such crimes, such as:—

- Enacted the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 which provides for more effective protection of the Constitutional rights of women who are victims of violence of any kind occurring within the family including any unlawful demand for dowry.
- setting up of help lines for women in distress under the Swadhar Scheme.
- support services to victims of violence through schemes such as Short Stay Homes and Swadhar under which shelter maintenance, counseling, capacity building, occupational training, medical aid and other services provided.
- A scheme has been formulated on 13.11.2007 to change the mindset of the society towards the girl child and view her as an asset and not a burden namely, Conditional Cash Transfer with Insurance Cover Scheme" The scheme provides for cash transfers to family of the girl child (preferably the mother) on fulfilling certain conditionalities such as birth and registration of the girl child immunization, enrollment to school; retention in school, delaying the marriage age beyond 18 18 years. Insurance cover is also proposed for the girl child as a safety net and to enable the girl to receive a lump sum at the age of 18 years.
- launching of a comprehensive scheme under the name "Ujjawala" on 4.12.2007 for victims of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation. The scheme has five components Prevention, Rescue, Rehabilitation, Re-integration and Repatriation.
- redressal of grievances through interventions of National and State Commissions for Women.

  organizing legal literacy and legal Awareness Camps.
- implementation of schemes for (i) awareness generation and advocacy and (ii) economic empowerment of women through the programmes of Rashtriya Mahila Kosh, Swashakti Project, Swayamsidha Project, Swawlamban Programme and Support to Training & Employment Programme (STEP).
- review of laws with a view to remove provisions which may be discriminatory to women and to enhance punishments for crimes against women.

  sensitization of Judiciary and police and civil administration on gender issues.
- follow up of reports of cases of atrocities against women received from varous sources, including NCW, with concerned authorities in the Central and the State Governments.